

# **Welcome to our Public Information Centre**

**Partners in Powerful Communities**



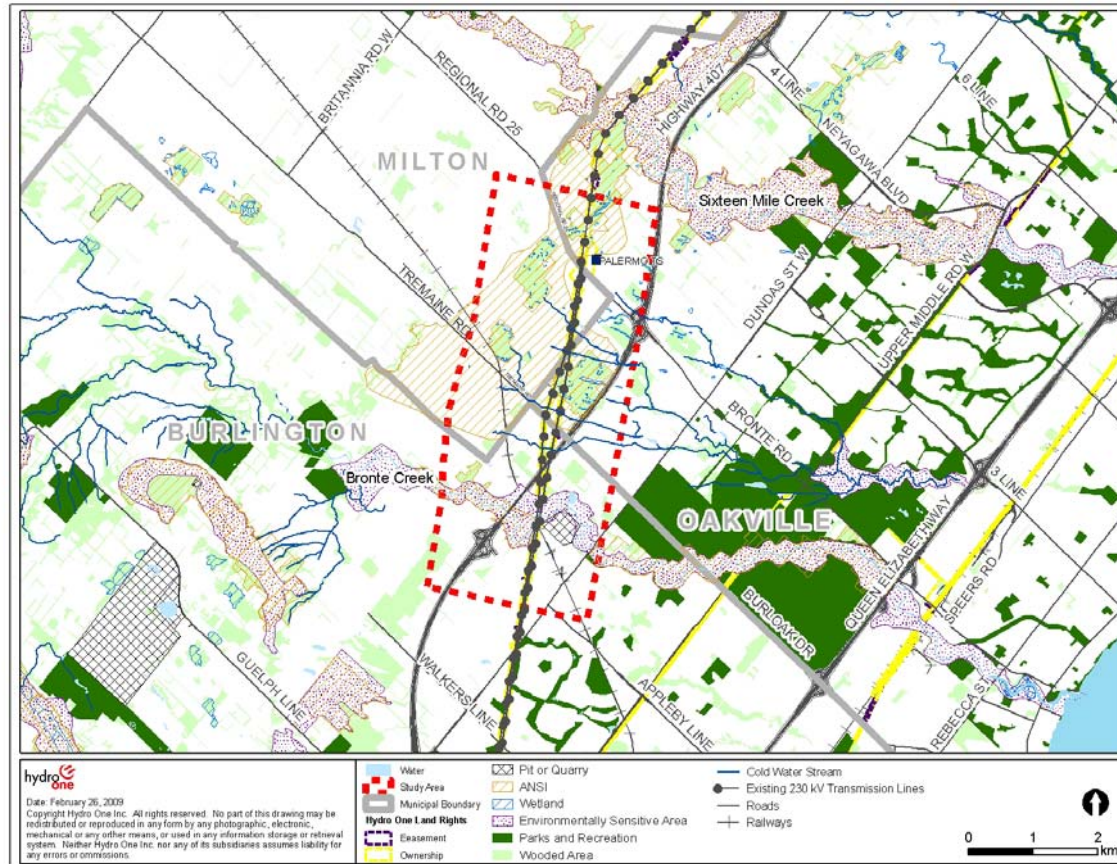
# Purpose of the Public Information Centre

- Provide you with information about Hydro One's proposed project
- Present the study area for the project
- Give you an opportunity to review display panels and maps, and speak directly with members of our project team
- Outline the next steps in project planning, approvals and implementation

# Need for the Project

- Hydro One's Palermo Transformer Station (TS) which supplies customers in parts of Burlington, Milton and Oakville has reached its capacity
- Forecast electricity demand in the area will compound overloading at Palermo TS
- Technical studies carried out with local distribution companies conclude that a new station, being referred to as "Tremaine TS", is required to maintain an adequate and reliable supply of electricity to customers served by the existing Palermo TS

# Map of Study Area with Environmental Features



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# Project Description

- Hydro One is proposing to build Tremaine TS on approximately 10 acres of land within the study area, which includes parts of the Burlington, Milton and Oakville
- Tremaine TS would consist of:
  - Initially, two 230/28 kilovolt (kV) transformers connected to the existing 230 kV double circuit transmission lines that run adjacent to Highway 407. The site would have the potential to accommodate additional transformers as required in the future.
  - Protection and control building for all station services
  - Fencing, landscaping, road access, environmental controls and communication facilities

# Typical Layout of Transformer Station



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# Transformer Station Site Criteria

A preferred TS site would:

- Minimize impacts on the natural environment
  - e.g. floodplains, environmentally sensitive and protected areas
- Minimize impacts on the socio - economic environment
  - e.g. set back from residential development
- Meet technical requirements
  - e.g. close to existing transmission lines and the customers to be served by the new facilities, suitable egress for distribution, access to all weather roads, site with good surface drainage and minimal grading required

# Environmental Planning Process

The potential effects of the project will be identified during project planning and design, as part of the Class Environmental Assessment (EA) process, including potential effects related to:

- Business and residential property owners
- Planned land uses and existing infrastructure
- Biodiversity and habitat (terrestrial and aquatic)
- Agricultural lands and productivity
- Archaeological and heritage resources
- Forestry and mineral resources
- Recreational resources and landscape appearance
- Storm-water management

# Environmental Mitigation Measures

Measures to prevent or mitigate potentially adverse environmental effects during design, construction and operation include:

- Spill containment and storm-water management
- Minimization of erosion and soil compaction
- Protecting electrical equipment from fire hazards
- Environmental management during construction and operation
- Minimizing effects on prime agricultural lands and vegetation
- Controlling mud, dust, and traffic disturbances during construction
- Controlling noise and appearance of the site after construction
- Protecting archaeological resources
- Minimizing effects on land owners and existing and planned land uses

# Project Approvals

## **Ontario Environmental Assessment (EA) Act**

The facilities are subject to provincial *Environmental Assessment Act* approval in accordance with the *Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities*

## **Other**

Hydro One will meet all other legislative and permitting requirements for individual projects

# Class EA Process

- In 1978, a *Class EA for Minor Transmission Facilities* was developed and approved by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and implemented by Ontario Hydro (now Hydro One). The Class EA was updated in 1992.
- The Class EA process is an effective way of ensuring that minor transmission projects that have a predictable range of effects are planned and carried out in an environmentally-acceptable manner
- Following the consultation process, a draft Environmental Study Report (ESR) will be available for stakeholder review and comment

## **Class EA Process** *(continued)*

- If no concerns are expressed during the review period, the project is considered acceptable. Hydro One will file the final ESR with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, and the project will proceed.
- If concerns are expressed during the review period, Hydro One will attempt to resolve them in order to complete the Class EA process.
- If stakeholders are dissatisfied with the process or Hydro One's project recommendations, they can request that the Minister of the Environment bump-up the project to an individual EA.

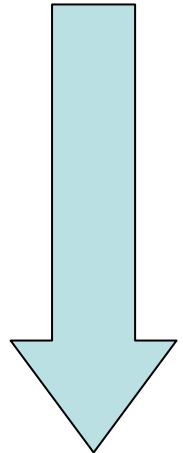
# Your Input is Important to Us

- Thank you for attending our Public Information Centre
- Please fill out a comment form before you leave, or send us your comments afterward
- For project information, please contact us at:  
Website: [www.HydroOneNetworks.com/newprojects](http://www.HydroOneNetworks.com/newprojects)  
Email: [Community.Relations@HydroOne.com](mailto:Community.Relations@HydroOne.com)  
Information Line: 1-877-345-6799 or 416-345-6799  
Fax: 416-345-6984

# Project Activities

- Initiate Class Environmental Assessment Process
- Identify and evaluate alternative transformer station (TS) sites, based on environmental (natural and social features), technical, and economic criteria
- Present and seek input on preferred TS site at Public Information Centre #2
- Issue draft Environmental Study Report (ESR) for public/stakeholder review and comment
- File final ESR with the Ministry of the Environment
- Proceed with project planning, property acquisition, design, engineering and construction
- Facilities in service

**Spring  
2009**



**Summer  
2012**

# Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMFs)

- EMFs are invisible forces that surround electrical equipment, power cords, and power lines. You cannot see or feel EMFs.
- Every time you use electricity and electrical appliances, you are exposed to EMFs at extremely low frequencies. EMFs produced by both power lines and use of electrical appliances, belong to this category.
- EMFs are strongest when close to the source. As you move away from the source, the strength of the fields fades rapidly.

# Health Canada's Position on EMFs

- There is no compelling scientific evidence that EMF in living and school environments, regardless of locations from power transmission lines, cause ill health such as cancer. This position is consistent with the overall opinions from most national and international scientific bodies.
- Health Canada does not consider guidelines for EMF exposure necessary, because scientific evidence is not strong enough to conclude that typical exposures cause problems.

Source: Health Canada submission to the British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office on the Vancouver Island Transmission Reinforcement Project; 2006. [www.hc-sc.gc.ca](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca)